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**PEDIATRIC RATE VARYING IMPLANTABLE CARDIAC DEVICE**

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**Abstract of the Disclosure**

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A device for monitoring cardiac activity in pediatric patients and providing therapeutic stimuli to the pediatric patient such that the basic pacing rate of therapy provided varies so as to closely match the normal variation in a pediatric patient's normal heart rate. In one aspect, the device is initialized with the patient's age at implantation and, via time updates provided by a timer, changes the intrinsic rate of stimulation in accordance with an average heart rate for the patient's age. In another aspect, the device monitors a proxy signal indicative of the patient's age, such as the respiration rate via the minute respiration signal, and varies the intrinsic rate of stimulation in accordance with the proxy indicator of age. In this aspect, the intrinsic stimulation rate is set at a multiple of the respiration rate wherein the multiple is between 6 and 10.

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